

REMARKS

The office action of June 18, 2006, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claims 1-5 and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Echerer.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Echerer in view of the patent to Reber et al.

In view of the Examiner's rejections of the claims, applicant has amended claim 1 and added new claims 13 and 14.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended the claims to address the instances of indefiniteness pointed out by the Examiner.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Echerer discloses an interactive communication system for medical treatment of remotely located patients. In this system the patient has a direct consultation with the doctor except that the doctor and the patient are not at the same location. Echerer does not disclose the presently claimed invention. In Echerer there is no mechanical moving device operative to move the camera to follow the patient in response to patient motion, as in the presently claimed invention.

Additionally, Echerer does not disclose an image processing system automatically processing the video motion pictures of each individual patient, upon request by an attending physician, recorded at the time intervals to be in uninterrupted sequence and displayed on the video display device, wherein the uninterrupted sequence of video motion pictures of the patient is of shorter duration than the time intervals. Basically, the system compresses the recorded pictures into a short time frame in order to reduce the time needed by a doctor to review the

information.

According to Echerer, there is a video recorder 124 located where the doctor is for recording the entire visit with the doctor for documentation purposes. There is no disclosure that the CPU 102 at the doctor end is programmed so that the records from repeated consultations of a specific patient automatically shown directly after one another.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-5 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Reber et al. discloses a medical communication apparatus. The Examiner combined Reber et al. with Echerer in determining that claims 8-9 would be unpatentable over such a combination. Applicant respectfully submits that Reber et al. adds nothing to the teachings of Echerer so as to arrive at the presently claimed invention as discussed above.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 8-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a

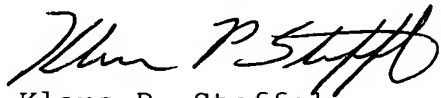
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combination of the above-discussed references is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Any additional fees or charges required at this time in connection with this application may be charged to Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 11-1835.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 31, 2008.

By: 
Klaus P. Stoffel

Date: March 31, 2008